

Bloomfield Record.

S. M. HULIN, Editor and Proprietor.
BLOOMFIELD, N. J., JULY 24, 1873.

Plural Marriage.

The papers on both sides of the water have of late been largely occupied with details and illustrations of the visit to Europe of his majesty, the Shah of Persia. His advent has done more than merely to gratify the vanity of titled aristocracy, and the host of lesser dignitaries that have participated in the round of ovation and respect paid to this oriental visitor. He has done more than simply to furnish sensational and social news for the papers, for he seems, in enlightened and civilized England, to have created a feeling of sympathy for the barbarous social customs prevailing in the land whence he comes. Whether the Shah of Persia is or is not a person of culture and refinement commensurate to his exalted rank is of little importance one way or the other; the fact that he is a polygamist proclaims him to be a barbarian without entering into a discussion or lengthy rehearsal of the idle rumors that have from time to time appeared in print. Of far greater importance is the attitude of recognition and respect paid to Nasir-ed-Din, a thorough-going polygamist, by English women of rank from Victoria downward. It amounts virtually to an approval of this infamous characteristic of the Persian social system. It even appears that English society to a considerable extent is ready to endorse and embrace polygamy as a consummation devoutly to be wished for. This may be attributable in some measure to the enthusiasm engendered by the tinsel splendor and barbarean display consequent upon the late receptions and ovations, but when such a staid, influential journal as the London *Saturday Review* sanctions and countenances it, there must be something deeper than mere superficial enthusiasm in the aspect of this question, from the English standpoint.

Says this *Review*: "The reason of the welcome given to the Shah by the leisureed classes is clear. Society is governed by the necessity of providing occupation for its unmarried members. Unmarried women form the majority of every household, and increasing checks their steady increase from decade to decade and from year to year. It is only natural that the mother, of a large and increasing family should find her symbol in the Shah. Just as Dr. Primrose represented the quintessence of monogamy, so the suggests the one conceivable method of providing for our surplus female population."

The *Review*, in further pursuance of the theme, states that an "ancient dogma" is accredited with having "not the Shah to discuss the question in all its bearings." In all probability this was but a rumor, or it true, only an isolated instance of addled enthusiasm.

In America polygamy has been practically tested. As a remedy for any evils of a social nature it has proved worse than the disease. And yet, in the face of facts gained by bitter experience, of examples furnished in our own land, we read of an appeal having been made to the Legislature of Massachusetts from the unmarried women of Lowell, petitioning for an enactment sanctioning plural marriage under certain conditions. The woman question throughout the whole length and breadth of our country is one that calls for radical reform and reconstruction, but plural marriage is not the way of escape. It could only consummate the degradation and enslavement of woman, rendering her condition infinitely worse than it can be under the present regime. We quote from the N. Y. *Graphic* the subjoined comments upon this question:

"What is the solution of this vast social problem? The difficulty stares us full in the face. The discontent of large numbers of our women—and women, too, of no little culture and refinement—is a fact that cannot be winked out of sight. They have hearts that hunger, that starve, for a sympathy and affection they have not found and are not likely to find. They are lonely, and need a companionship that has not appeared. They are solitary, but no home offers to satisfy their longing. They are human, with all the deep and sacred instincts of womanhood struggling in their hearts, but unpeased. And the modern man thinks less and less of marriage, lives more and more at the hotel, becomes the *habitue* of the club, and buys his comforts as he buys his clothes. The difficulty, so far as the women are concerned, is too real and unjust to be whistled down the wind. Those who write to us refuse to be comforted by同情或 silenced by sneers. But who shall give them what they ask for? How shall their natural and legitimate wants be met? The questions are easier asked than answered. But the earnest, repeated asking may bring the satisfying solution in due time. It is something to see that relief cannot be found in this or that particular direction. The plural marriage is a gate that opens into a desert waste and more blighting than the wilderness; it is sought to escape from. It has been tried for thousands of years and found disastrous. Its effect on the character of men and women alike has been degradation. It has proved a social curse. It is incompatible with a high state of civilization, and that personal delicacy and refinement, that purity and nobility of life, and that intellectual activity and moral greatness which are the peculiar product and glory of our western civilization. The modicum attempt to revive it, in Utah, under the

most favorable auspices, has practically failed in a quarter of a century; and its strongest and most intense opponents are women who have felt its wrongs to womanhood and been stung with its indignities to human nature. The modern woman does not pretend to be superior to man. She claims to be his equal and she wants a husband and a home, and cannot be put off with a mere vulgar fiction of either. All that is best and noblest and loveliest of womanhood protests against a divided interest in any man who claims the sacred name and privilege of husband, and is to be her children's father.

It is easy enough to talk of plural marriage as a remedy for social evil evils; but the chief reason why so many men do not marry is their inability to support a wife in a style that accords with her tastes and their own, and the fashion of the society in which they move. But how a man who cannot support one wife will be able to provide for two, is a problem in social mathematics we are unable to solve. Either there must be a total change of existing fashions, both of dress and domestic economy, or plural marriage would be merely another name for temporary relations that western civilization has always frowned upon, and liaison which gratify the lust of one party without satisfying the love of the other, or providing even the semblance of a home. With such a change of fashions there would be no need of departing from the monogamous system which has its foundation in human nature and its sanction in human experience. The marriage of one man and one woman, and for life, is the ideal state towards which all souls aspire and all social experiments tend. The only difficulty is to effect the marriage of the right man to the right woman.

Bloomfield Library Association.

The undersigned, a committee appointed at a recent meeting of the Board of Directors for the purpose of preparing additional subscriptions for the erection of the Hall, respectfully appeal to the citizens generally to come forward in aid of this work.

The plans have been prepared and will be placed in the office of Mr. Horace Pierson for the inspection of the public on and after Saturday next.

The committee are satisfied that by the distribution of stock, so as to make every inhabitant interested, the Board of Directors would be enabled to erect a building that will not only be an ornament to the village, but a proud and lasting monument to its people.

Our Report is now before the public, which gives a true exhibit of the condition of the Association, and the contributions have not been idle, but, by their combined efforts \$22,400 have been subscribed to the capital stock and an eligible building site purchased.

By a resolution of the Board it will be necessary to secure \$30,000 before commencing the building. The comparatively small amount then of \$7,000 is to be raised.

The committee therefore earnestly and urgently call upon every citizen, the merchant, the mechanic, the professional and laboring man, to subscribe at least one share to forward and complete this noble enterprise.

J. H. CHAMBERS,
D. W. PAGE,
J. F. RANDOLPH,
Jos. P. HAGUE,
E. MACPHERSON.

The following is a list of the patrons up to the present time:

Adams, E. C., Augt. Morris, Macfarlan, Esq.
Baldwin, Augustus, Maxfield, J. B.
Barrett, Halsey M., McDowell, Fred. H.,
Baldophil, H. H., Maxfield, C. W.,
Baldwin, J. N., McDowell, J. R.,
Burtholomew, J. R., Oakes, D. & Son,
Baldwin, W. S., Oakes, Jos. K.,
Chel, Samuel, Powers, Chas. W.,
Crane, Jason, Peeler, Robert,
Fried, Fred., Pierson, Horace,
Goggin, G. H., Pelebont, Chabrier,
Cook, G. W., Pelebont, Jarvis,
Chambers, J. H., Peacock, Geo. W.,
Coggeshall, M. C., Peckham, Isaiah,
Davis, C. M., Peeler, W. J.,
Davis, J. A., M. D., Prichard, Geo.,
Dodd, Amzi, Peleg, E. W.,
Dodd, Horace, Ravenhill, W. C.,
Davey, E. H., Raynor, W. C.,
Dodd, M. Fanny, Reardon, J. Banks,
Dodd, Sarah D., Randolph, J. F.,
Dodd, Eliza B., Stubbert, W. F.,
Dodd, M. W., Symon, Robert F.,
Elliott, Volney, Sheldon, H. B.,
Euchin, Charles, Sanxay, Jos. F.,
Garraldran, D. G., Sheddick, J. W.,
Frissell, A. S., Sherman, John,
Hague, Jos. P., Sherwood, Lumber, S.,
Herrick, C. C., Sibert, Geo. C.,
Hargraves & Hayes, Taylor, Thos. H.,
Hawkes, Nelson A., Van Winkle, Isaac,
Hildgen, Jas. A., Van Winkle, C.,
Hulin, Stephen M., White, Wm. T.,
Knox, Chas. E., Williamson, W. K.,
Lindenmeier, H., Williamson, W. J.

Aquatics in Bloomfield.

On Saturday evening last an amusing affair took place in the form of a tub race on the bosom of that sheet of water known as the Morris Ocean. The contestants were four young gentlemen of Bloomfield: Messrs. Baldwin, Barrett, Smith and Crane. John P. Maxfield was the umpire. The line was stretched across at the Belleville avenue bridge, as the starting point, and a flag stationed a hundred yards below to denote the end of the race. The fact that the young men who were to vie with each other in this sport were from prominent families in the village attracted a large and select concourse of spectators, who congregated upon the bridge and the banks of the canal on either side to witness this amusing sport. The first tub was at length launched, and one of the young men thought he would get in. The tub, however, was of a different mind, and unceremoniously spilled him overboard. Two others were set afloat but they manifested at first the same refractory spirit. The youngest and lightest, however, managed to maintain his equilibrium without much difficulty and escaped the preliminary ducking experienced by his fellows.

Just as the tubs were all manned and the young men eager for the fray, a vessel lay in sight from the southward. The captain it is rumored was interviewed and requested to "take in sail," and await the result of the race but he declined. He was perhaps apprehensive of foul weather and a boisterous passage over the one mile level, if he delayed. So the Mary Jane, of Easton, went with by "top gallants flying," as the Commodore would say, after which the contestants came off and was won by Mr. Crane. And now comes the presentation and speech by our ex-Assemblyman of Belleville avenir. It took place on the tow-path, and was a happy effort. As near as we can recall it his words were as follows:

"There are perhaps in this assemblage persons who have witnessed the contests between Oxford and Cambridge—between Harvard and Yale; but they will be compelled to admit that you, sir, the Victor of the Tub heroes club of Bloomfield, are the noblest Roman of them all! On the behalf of the young ladies, sir, I would present this as an appreciation of your ability and agility."

The memento consisted of a cedar tub of diminutive size, and very neatly finished. The recipient tendered his acknowledgments to the ladies, who were on the opposite bank, and so ended a very successful and amusing little episode in Bloomfield history.

Excursion to Hemlock Falls.

This romantic place was the scene of rare enjoyment one day last week. A large party left Bellville avenue, Bloomfield, in carriages for a picnic there, consisting of ladies and gentlemen from Brooklyn, Newark and Bloomfield.

After a pleasant drive through the "Oranges" and over the mountain in Millburn township, a distance of about twelve miles, we halted beside the arched bridge that spans the outlet of Hemlock Lake. Two of the youth of the party succeeded by dint of great exertion in opening a "self-latching gate, patent applied for," which opens to a winding roadway leading to the spacious stable attached to the Bold mansion located at the head of the lake. Here the party alighted and after a kindly greeting from Madam Bold, at once started for the falls with Mr. Theodore Bold as guide. The foot path along the margin of the lake was a "hard road to travel I believe," now overgrown with heavy growths of tangled vines and bushes, and entwining for support the branches of overhanging trees, the whole party safely gained a broad and clear path that led to the falls.

And here we are on the old favorite camping ground of the Watchung tribe of Indians, just as wild and natural as when a hundred years ago you named it "El-Van-Doo"—the place of rest. What a picture is spread out before us, for the enjoyment of the lovers of the grand and beautiful in nature! We enter an extensive grove of lofty pine trees which give a deep shade to the lawn, carpeted by the fallen leaves of the pines, here and there broken by natural seats and tables formed by moss covered rocks. Near by great rocks tower majestically over the grove and from them leaps the waterfall from which the place derives its present name, Hemlock Falls. The water descends in a succession of falls and rapids over the rugged rocks, with a sweet, soothmg, refreshing sound that charms the visitor.

While engrossed in viewing the scenery and watching the sport of the young trout in the dark basin below the falls, our attention was called by the ladies of the party to the dinner on the "Adams Rock Table," and after gazing a few moments at the large variety and quantity of provisions, orders were given to "Charge, Chester charge," on the same, and with appetites made sharp by agreeable exercise and invigorating mountain air, the orders were promptly obeyed. How good everything tasted from the hands of the Bloomfield ladies! (they do know how to prepare for picnics) and what surroundings! the music of waterfalls, the sweet songs of birds, fine breezes blowing, the lively chit chat of the picnickers, why, the very trees were clapping their leaf-hands for joy over the happy time.

After dinner some rambled through the woods others over the rocky heights of Mount Wil-hal, or along the border of "Wild Rose Brook," gathering flowers and fern leaves and decorating their hats there-with, while others were reading the news of the day of their favorite authors, and all just happy.

Just here let us refer to our head coachman, Nathan, who performed his duties so well, and so thoughtful was he, that although he usually smokes a pipe, on this occasion, out of regard to the ladies, provided him self with segars, and even ascended to the dizzy top of "Extension Rock," and there spreading himself beneath the canopy of the heavens, and without fear of the tanning sun, smoked away until Gen. Max called him to "harness up" which he proceeded to do, with "Afric's sunny smile."

On the way home a visit was paid to Mr. Heckler's elegant place on the Orange Mountain, the view from which is said to be one of the finest in the country. The grounds are tastefully laid out, and flower beds dot the lawn even to the edge of the cliff.

Eagle Rock was next visited, from which,

ABOUT TOWN.

Hot and dusty again.

Fruit is inconveniently scarce.

Tan tub race was as diverting to the spectators as it was interesting to the tub-ist's.

The Bloomfield Branch of the D.L. & W. R. is to be tracked throughout with steel rails.

Much dissatisfaction is felt in Bloomfield at what appears to be the sheer injustice of the assessments for benefits as made by the Commissioners of the Essex Road Board for the grading and macadamizing of Bloomfield avenue.

Rev. and Mrs. G. C. Merriam, of Highland Avenue, have closed their house in contemplation of a three months' visit to Europe. They were to sail on Wednesday, the 23d, in the Minnesota. They expect to spend most of the time in Switzerland.

Mr. Horace Pierson has in his office an elegant map of the property of the Watseking Land Company, and is prepared to sell lots situated upon this tract. The prices are reasonable and terms accommodating. Payments can be made by monthly installments.

Proposals were received by the Town Committee from some half dozen parties for the surveying and mapping of the township. On Friday last they were considered, and award made to Antoine McComb, he being the lowest bidder. Estimates ranged from \$2,500 up to nearly \$5,000.

Ridgewood Avenue, north of the Midland Railroad, is being opened and graded by the Essex Road Board. The grade which appears to have been established is not exactly what it should be. The railroad cut is the natural drain for the land in its vicinity. At least such is our humble opinion of the fitness of things.

The railroad bridge—or rather the affair dignified with that name—near Mr. Jarvis' residence, is in a dangerous condition. Somebody, about a year ago, purloined a rail from a neighboring fence, and placed it in a gap in the plankings, but that rail is now gone and a short plank substituted, leaving an ugly hole a foot in width on each side.

In the vacant, unfenced lot on Broad street, just above the Midland railroad, is located a man-trap in the shape of an old well. How deep it is we can't say; looked twice and couldn't see the bottom. No donkey is out in it, and it is not used, and makes no noise when it is stepped on. It is a hard road to travel I believe," now overgrown with heavy growths of tangled vines and bushes, and entwining for support the branches of overhanging trees, the whole party safely gained a broad and clear path that led to the falls.

A number of friends of THE RECORD have our thanks for "items" furnished us. If anything happens worthy of note in their vicinity, they don't wait till the paper is out and then wonder why "they didn't have it in," as some people do. The way to have a live paper, is not only for the editor to be on the *qui vive* for items, but for the readers themselves to contribute, even if nothing more than the simple announcement of a fact, and these in the aggregate go to make up a newsy local paper, and that is what we want in Bloomfield.

An interview took place on Friday last between our Township Committee and Mr. Wilson, President of the Newark and Bloomfield Car Railroad Co., relative to running the steam street car in our streets. It was arranged that a written agreement is to be drawn up, granting permission for experimental trips to be made by the dummy during a period not exceeding two months. The permission may also be revoked at any time during said period, if the Town Committee shall deem it best, in the interests of the township to do so.

STATE ITEMS.

The New Jersey Spiritualists will hold their annual convention at Vineland, on Friday, Aug. 8, continuing three days.

The patent leather manufacturer of John H. Perry, in Newark, was destroyed by fire on Monday, involving a loss of about \$50,000.

James Mahoney, a carpenter, fell from a new building on which he was at work in Orange, on Tuesday, and was instantly killed. Decended was a single man, twenty-seven years of age.

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The map of the proposed new tunnel of the Morris & Essex, through Bergen Hill, has been completed, and the work will be commenced at an early date. An English firm has taken the contract, and are to complete the work in eighteen months.

The suits against the Midland Railroad Company have resulted in the placing of the affairs of the company in the hands of E. N. Miller, Mason Loomis, and Conrad M. Johnson, who have been appointed receiver of the road by Chancellor Runyon.

In the recent session of the Court of Errors judgement was given in the Vanderhoek (Hudson County) will case in favor of the children of the deceased consuls, thereby reversing the decision of the Chancellor, which was in favor of the surviving cousin. The amount of property involved exceeds half a million dollars.

The first week's subscription to the Washington's Headquarters Fund reaches nearly \$15,000. Among the leading new subscribers are Secretary Robeson, Hon. Amos Clark, Walter Phelps, Jacob Janata, George Danforth and Senator Cutler. The Historical Society will hold its September meeting at the headquarters and take possession with appropriate ceremonies.

FROM AUCTION! A LARGE LOT OF SHOES

AT THESE PRICES:

	\$1.75
Ladies' Lasting Button Shoes, only do. French Kid Button Shoes, only	2.25
A Fine French Kid Button Shoe, only	3.00
Boys' Congress Gaits, 1 to 5,	1.00
do. Low Fancy Shoes	1.25
Ladies' Slippers	1.00
Child's Pearl Button Shoes 6 to 10	1.90
Misses' do do 11 to 2	2.40
Men's Hand Sewed Oxford Ties	3.00
do do Calf Gaits	3.50
Ladies' Glazed Morocco Polish Boots	2.00

The above is only a part of a Large Lot of Goods bought at the recent Bankrupt Sale in New York.

TAYLOR & WILLIAMS, 157 MARKET STREET, First Shoe Store Above Broad St, Newark.

The Cheapest and Best Shoe Store in the State.

New Advertisements.

Style, Durability, Economy.

OUR SILK HATS